

Applicant: Smith et al.
For: A LAUNCHER PLATFORM

1. A launcher platform comprising:
 2. a support structure; and
 3. a plurality of rails mounted on the support structure for
 4. supporting missiles thereon,
 5. each adjacent rail elevated above the other rails to accommodate
 6. additional missiles and different type missiles while maintaining a low
 7. center of gravity.
1. 2. The launcher platform of claim 1 in which there are six rails total, three on each side of the support structure, and the intermediate rails on each side are elevated above the other rails.
1. 2. 3. The launcher platform of claim 1 in which there are N total rails where N is an even number, $N/2$ rails on each side of the support structure, and the minority of the rails are elevated.
1. 2. 4. The launcher platform of claim 1 in which adjacent rails are offset from the other rails.
1. 2. 5. The launcher platform of claim 4 in which the offset rails are offset rearwardly from the other rails.
1. 2. 6. The launcher platform of claim 4 in which the elevated rails are offset

2 from the other rails.

1 7. The launcher platform of claim 4 in which there are six rails total, three
2 on each side of the support structure, and the intermediate rails on each side are elevated
3 above and offset rearwardly from the other rails.

1 8. The launcher platform of claim 4 in which there are N rails total where N
2 is an even number, N/2 rails on each side of the support structure, and the minority of
3 the rails are offset from the other rails.

1 9. The launcher platform of claim 1 in which the support structure is a
2 monolithic platform.

1 10. The launcher platform of claim 9 in which the monolithic platform
2 includes a set of mounting pads for each rail.

1 11. The launcher platform of claim 10 in which the mounting pads are cast
2 as a part of the platform.

1 12. The launcher platform of claim 9 in which the platform has a
2 predetermined width and a predefined length.

1 13. The launcher platform of claim 9 in which the platform is made of
2 aluminum.

1 14. The launcher platform of claim 9 in which the platform is made of a
2 composite material.

1 15. The launcher platform of claim 9 in which the platform has a center line
2 and the rails are symmetrically arranged with respect to the center line of the platform.

1 16. A launcher platform comprising:
2 a support structure; and
3 a plurality of rails mounted on the support structure for
4 supporting missiles thereon,
5 each adjacent rail elevated above and offset rearwardly from the other
6 rails to accommodate additional missiles and different type missiles while
7 maintaining a low center of gravity.

1 17. The launcher platform of claim 16 in which there are six rails total, three
2 on each side of the support structure, and the intermediate rails on each side are elevated
3 above the other rails.

1 18. The launcher platform of claim 16 in which there are N rails total where
2 N is an even number, N/2 rails on each side of the support structure, and the minority of
3 the rails are elevated.

1 19. The launcher platform of claim 16 in which there are N rails total where
2 N is an even number, N/2 rails on each side of the support structure and the minority of
3 the rails are offset rearwardly from the other rails.

1 20. The launcher platform of claim 16 in which the support structure is a
2 monolithic platform.

1 21. The launcher platform of claim 20 in which the monolithic platform
2 includes a set of mounting pads for each rail.

1 22. The launcher platform of claim 21 in which the mounting pads are cast
2 as a part of the platform.

1 23. The launcher platform of claim 20 in which the platform has a
2 predetermined width and a predefined length.

1 24. The launcher platform of claim 20 in which the platform is made of
2 aluminum.

1 25. The launcher platform of claim 20 in which the platform is made of a
2 composite material.

1 26. The launcher platform of claim 20 in which the platform has a center line
2 and the rails are symmetrically arranged with respect to the centerline of the platform.

RECEIVED
PATENT OFFICE

1 27. A launcher platform comprising:
2 a support structure; and
3 a plurality of rails on each side of the support structure, at least
4 one rail on each side elevated above the other rails to accommodate additional missles
5 and different type missles.

1 28. The launcher platform of claim 27 in which there are N rails total where
2 N is an even number, $N/2$ rails on each side of the support structure, and the minority of
3 the rails on each side are elevated.

1 29. The launcher platform of claim 27 in which at least one rail is offset
2 from the other rail or rails.

A6

1 30. A launcher platform comprising:
2 a support structure; and
3 a plurality of rails on each side of the support structure, at least
4 one rail on each side offset rearwardly from the other rail or rails to accommodate
5 additional missiles and different type missiles.

1 31. The launcher platform of claim 30 in which at least one rail is elevated
2 above the other rail or rails.

and
A7